



Capstone

The Official Newsletter of the Utah Emergency
Management Association
December 2001

President's Mailbox

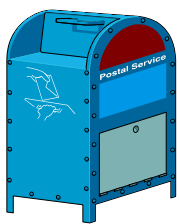
Lance Peterson - Weber County

This Month's Theme: TERRORISM

Vol. 4 No. 4

I have one of those 3-ring binders on my shelf. You know, one of those 3-ring binders that is about six inches thick, and is almost impossible to pick up and open, let alone have it stand on the shelf with other manuals in some semblance of order. But, believe it or not, I have actually used the darn thing! The monstrous binder I am referring to is the Student manual from "Emergency Response to Terrorism: Incident Management" course that was sponsored by the National Fire Academy. It was a course that I attended back in October of 1998, and one which I thoroughly enjoyed.

While I might not have understood how to apply everything that was taught in the course, there were three things that really stuck out in my mind: 1) Pre-incident recognition and identification, 2) Those unique protocols that must be implemented for a terrorist incident, and 3) The need for in-depth understanding and implementation of Unified Command. Have we planned and trained well enough to feel comfortable? Not me! One of my



biggest concerns is that our front line people, dispatchers included, do not have the tools to recognize, early on, that what they are responding to is different. I fear for those first responders. As an Emergency Program Manager for my county, I feel responsible. It's my job to help my county, and that means everyone in my county, to be ready. That means, plans need to be written, training needs to be implemented, and exercises need to be conducted.

But of course, none of this will be worth the effort, if a terrorist event is not recognized and the proper protocols are not put into action. I guess that is why

pre-incident recognition and identification really stood out in my mind when I attended the NFA course. It was a tool, a tool that I needed in order to be a better Emergency Program Manager. . . . And a very useful tool at that.

It is our hope that when you attend the UEMA conference on January 11th, you will be able to feel the same way; that there will be tools there that you can use when you leave. It's one thing to attend a conference or a workshop or any training event for that matter, but it's another thing to walk away with something useful.

This issue of the Capstone is dedicated to the times of the season: Terrorism. Its out there folks, and if anyone says it won't happen here, (I used to say that), then they are living in a real dream world. It is only a matter of when, not if. Whether it's diesel and fertilizer, or a bomb hidden in someone's shoe, or a fire, it will happen and we had better be ready.

I have enjoyed being your President this past year. I know that UEMA will continue to grow and be a great presence in Emergency Management under Cathy's great leadership. I expect to see all of you on the 11th. I would like to thank our great Board of Directors for their hard work and dedication. And thanks again to all of you for your support. It has been a fun ride.

LANCE PETERSON

Lance Peterson is the Emergency Program Manager for Weber County and is the outgoing President of UEMA. Cathy Diehl of Ogden City will take over the reigns in 2002.

SITSTAT REPORT

*The SITSTAT REPORT is a section of the newsletter which addresses a specific item of interest. Our reports this month focus on **Terrorism**. The articles were written by guest commentators at the invitation of the Editor. If you would like to address a specific issue in upcoming publications, please let us know.*

Pre-incident Recognition and Identification

The recognition and identification of a potential terrorist incident are significant and fundamental first steps in responding to any such event in your jurisdiction. Many jurisdictions spent this past year conducting a threat assessment for their communities as part of the Department of Justice WMD grant program, coordinated by John Rokich of CEM. This type of assessment is a key step in beginning to plan our response to a terrorist incident. Knowing the possible targets is crucial, but only the beginning.

Since we can't decide for, or tell the terrorists exactly when and where to attack, we have to do much more than identify possible targets. One important task in the response process is to identify, at the onset, that what is happening is not an accident or an act of God. We have to identify early on that the event is a terrorist incident in order for our community to muster the resources necessary, and to protect them from possible hazards and secondary devices that are targeting them. And remember, this response is not over until the perpetrators have been caught and successfully prosecuted.

The National Fire Academy has outlined some excellent screening protocols that can help dispatchers and first responders identify possible terrorist incidents. The entire dispatch system must be trained and alert to the potential of terrorism and use screening questions to gather as much information as possible and alert first responding units. Early recognition and identification tools are: 1) occupancy/location, 2) types of events, 3) timing of events, and 4) on-scene situation.

Occupancy/Location

The occupancy and location of an incident can be an easy-to-use indicator of a possible terrorist incident. Included in this category are such occupants or locations such as symbolic or historic targets, governmental buildings, assembly occupancies, places of worship, controversial occupants, infrastructure locations, and chemical production, handling or storage facilities. (Examples include: city hall, public safety, courts, federal buildings, churches, places of special significance, malls, schools, fur stores, animal labs, abortion clinics, power stations, and transportation hubs, to name a few.)

Types of Events

Another recognition tool that can be used is to evaluate the "type" of emergency. This does not imply that every type of emergency listed is definitely a terrorist incident, but that it should be looked at closely. The "type" of incident, coupled with any of the other recognition factors should be a red flag for any responder. (Some examples include, but are not limited to: explosions or incendiary fires involving target hazard occupancies and locations, or chemical containers, incidents involving firearms, especially when mass casualties are involved, and mass casualties/fatalities when there is no obvious trauma.)

Timing of Events

The timing of when the incident occurs may also be used as a clue to responders. The timing factor can include: historically significant days or anniversaries, day of the week, and even time of day. (Examples of timing are: the anniversary of a conviction or execution of a terrorist, previous bombing anniversary, middle eastern events, fire in a government (or target) building that is closed for the weekend, a holiday, or fire in a target building at 5:00 in the morning.)

On-scene Situation

Exact occurrences at an incident scene can provide major clues. Unusual or unexplained vapors, mists or plumes should warn responders, as well as: an unexplained sudden onset of mass illness or death, mass casualties with little or no trauma, odd or unusual odors (garlic-like, onion-like, fruity, hay, almond-like, etc.), victims with unexplained skin, eye, and mucous membrane irritation and blistering, presence of containers, devices, sprayers, trucks that are out of place, containers or objects that may hide secondary devices, unusual fire behavior, or anything that just seems unusual.

Summary

These and other warning signals, should be part of the training made available to all of our dispatchers and emergency responders including Public Works. Furthermore, easy-to-read, quick-reference checklists with these recognition and identification signals should be created and made available to our dispatch centers, and to our responders so that when the -911- call comes in, our response system can evaluate and detect those situations that just might be a terrorist incident. As emergency managers, let's pray we never need to implement these protocols. But, as emergency managers, let's pay particular attention to these danger signs, especially during the upcoming year.

This article was written from material taken directly from the NFA course Emergency Response to Terrorism: Incident Management, September 1998.

UEMA SPOTLIGHT

*In this issue of CAPSTONE, UEMA introduces **Ann Allen**, the emergency manager for Intermountain Health Care, Urban Central Region and **Joe Thornton**, the new CEM Training & Exercise Section Manager.*

Ann Allen is the newest member of the UEMA Board of



Directors. Her assignment on the Board is to oversee and coordinate UEMA training activities.

Ann has worked for IHC since 1975 (yes, she says, she is as old as dirt). Ann has fulfilled many assignments at IHC including the Maternity Department, Hospital Staffing, and as the Director for Cardiac Research. Her achievements are extraordinary.

During the past four years Ann has worked as the Emergency Management Coordinator for the Urban Central Region. The Urban Central Region for IHC includes four hospitals (LDS, Cottonwood, Alta View, and the Orthopedic Specialty Hospital). Ann says that by working in this particular region of IHC, has provided her an opportunity to work with some of the finest emergency managers in the state.

Ann has completed the HazMat tech courses and many other CEM classes offered in emergency management. In her local community of Tooele County, she has been a volunteer on the local Fire Department as a fire fighter and EMT over the past many years. (She does it all, doesn't she?)

UEMA is very proud to have her join the Board of Directors. Her experience and professionalism will definitely be an asset to the organization.

Joe Thornton is the new Training Section Manager for the Utah Division of Comprehensive Emergency Management. Joe spent many years working with Army and Air Force



nuclear, chemical and conventional weapons' systems. His military career highlights include training manager of the Air Force school that taught chemical munitions disposal, and as the manager of the Hill Air Force Base bomb dump. While so employed, Joe wrote the Air Force procedures for the marking and identification of munitions returning from the Gulf War. He says he is very proud of his eight years in Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD). Joe has also served as the Handicap Coordinator for the Provo Head Start program and volunteered in the Anchorage, Alaska Crisis Center for two years. While serving at Aviano Air Base, Italy, his family was named "Family of the Year."

Joe is currently revamping the CEM training program. Partner shipping with UEMA, the training section will revise the current certification programs, updating the professional standards for emergency management in the State.

Joe's plan is to deliver CEM training with more than sixty courses and workshops available and all of which are offered at no cost to your community. These courses will soon be listed on CEM's web site. In the meantime, contact Joe Thornton (801-538-3400) and he will email the list to you.

Emergency management is a very diverse and important field according to Joe Thornton. He is enthusiastic about the courses offered at CEM and will work with the communities and their exercise programs to help fulfill their training needs. Taking training to areas outside the Wasatch Front and helping elected officials understand emergency management are two of Joe's goals.

Homeland Security Task Force

Shortly after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and at the Pentagon, Governor Michael O. Leavitt announced a new state agency for homeland defense.

The mission of this new organization is *to secure and protect the safety, health, well being and rights of all people in Utah from man-made threats against freedom, life, property and the environment.* This is a big challenge in our current environment of Anthrax and threats of terrorism in a free and open society.



The Task Force is a subset of the Utah Comprehensive Emergency Management Division of the Department of Public Safety and is modeled after the Utah Olympic Safety Command (UOPSC). It combines experts from several state agencies and, together with their local and federal counterparts, will evaluate citizen concerns and potential threats to Utah communities. The threat of terrorism will exist long after the completion of the Winter Games. Utah may become the most vulnerable when the extra security afforded by UOPSC and federal agencies end. Terrorists have demonstrated that they have patience and await the right opportunity to cause the maximum mayhem and destruction.

The Homeland Security Task Force is a clearinghouse of intelligence and information. Though not a response agency, the Task Force investigates suspicious activities, assesses the vulnerability of



Utah critical facilities and infrastructure, and brings resources together to meet any credible terrorist threat. Currently there is NO information, from any source, that indicates that there are threats against the State of Utah, although authorities will be particularly alert during the Salt Lake 2002 Winter Games.



If you notice anything that you consider suspicious or out of the ordinary, please report it to your local law enforcement agency. Such suspicious activities might include people taking inappropriate pictures or asking detailed questions about dams, water treatment facilities, airport security, public utilities, law enforcement procedures, or about any other important facility that would disrupt government operations, the economy, or public health and welfare if destroyed. When a crime in progress is noticed, call 9-1-1 or your law enforcement for immediate response. A follow-up call to the HLS office would also be appreciated. Homeland Security can be reached at 801-957-8600 during business hours or on the CEM 24 hour line (801-538-3400) after duty hours. Together, with the assistance of concerned citizens and the Homeland Security Task Force, Utah communities will be safe from terrorism.

CAPSTONE Conference

***Sponsored by the
Utah Emergency Management Association - UEMA
and the Division of Comprehensive Emergency
Management - CEM***

***January 11, 2002
West Coast Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah***

Agenda

8:00 - 8:30 Continental Breakfast - Registration

8:30 - 8:45 Welcome / Opening Remarks
Wasatch III Ballroom

Lance Peterson
UEMA President, 2001

8:45 - 9:30 Keynote Speaker
Bio-Terrorism in Utah and the US

Dr. Charles Brokopp, DrPH
*Utah Department of Health
Director, Division of Epidemiology
and Laboratory Services*

9:30 - 9:40 Break

9:40 - 10:40 Break Out Session I - **Cascades I - II - III**

A, Elected Official Overview
Cascades I Conference Room

Jim Buchanan
Brigham City Emergency Manager

B. Airport Security
Cascades II Conference Room

David Herrmann
Salt Lake Airport Emergency Manager

C. Integrating with the FBI
Cascades III Conference Room

Special Agent Chip Spencer
FBI SLC Crisis Response

10:40 - 10:50	Break	
10:50 - 11:50	Break Out Session II - Cascades I - II - III	
	A. Bio-Terrorism Response Cascades I Conference Room	Brad Morrell <i>Special Operations, Salt Lake City Fire</i>
	B. Creating an EOC on a Shoe String Budget Cascades II Conference Room	Dean Cox <i>Emergency Program Manager Washington County</i>
	C. LEPCs and the Utah Homeland Security Task Force Cascades III Conference Room	DeeEll Fifiield <i>Intel Section Manager Utah Homeland Security Task Force</i>
11:55	Lunch - Wasatch I Ballroom	
	Presentation - UEMA Awards	
	Luncheon Speaker	Lori Giovanonni
1:15	September 11, 2001 - Wasatch III Ballroom	
	A. USAR Task Force Presentation	Roger Stroud <i>SLCFD - SL USAR Task Force 1</i>
	B. DMORT Operations	Lance Peterson <i>DMORT Commander WTC-NYC</i>
	C. FEMA Response	Pete Bakersky <i>USAR Coordinator WTC-NYC</i>
2:30	Break	
2:45	FEMA Region VIII - Wasatch III Ballroom	Dave Maurstad <i>Regional Director, FEMA Region VIII</i>
3:15	Utah Homeland Security Agency - Wasatch III Ballroom	Scott Behunin <i>Director, CEM</i>
3:45	Closing Remarks	Cathy Diehl <i>UEMA President 2002</i>

Updated Information About How to Recognize and Handle a Suspicious Package or Envelope
October 31, 2001
CDC Health Advisory

Letters containing *Bacillus anthracis* (anthrax) have been received by mail in several areas in the United States. In some instances, anthrax exposures have occurred, with several persons becoming infected.

To prevent such exposures and subsequent infection, all persons should learn how to recognize a suspicious package or envelope and take appropriate steps to protect themselves and others.

Some characteristics of suspicious packages and envelopes include the following:

- ▶ Inappropriate or unusual labeling
- ▶ Excessive postage
- ▶ Handwritten or poorly typed addresses
- ▶ Misspellings of common words
- ▶ Strange return address or no return address
- ▶ Incorrect titles or title without a name
- ▶ Not addressed to a specific person
- ▶ Marked with restrictions, such as "Personal," "Confidential," or "Do not x-ray"
- ▶ Marked with any threatening language
- ▶ Postmarked from a city or state that does not match the return address
- ▶ Powdery substance felt through or appearing on the package or envelope

Other suspicious signs may include:

- ▶ Oily stains, discolorations, or odor
- ▶ Lopsided or uneven envelope
- ▶ Excessive packaging material such as masking tape, string, etc.
- ▶ Excessive weight
- ▶ Ticking sound
- ▶ Protruding wires or aluminum foil

If a package or envelope appears suspicious, **DO NOT OPEN IT.** When handling a suspicious package or envelope:

- ▶ Do not shake or empty the contents of any suspicious package or envelope.
- ▶ Do not carry the package or envelope, show it to others or allow others to examine it.
- ▶ Put the package or envelope down on a stable surface; do not sniff, touch, taste, or look closely at it or at any contents which may have spilled.
- ▶ Alert others in the area about the suspicious package or envelope.

Leave the area, close any doors, and take actions to prevent others from entering the area. If possible, shut off the ventilation system.

WASH hands with soap and water to prevent spreading potentially infectious material to face or skin. Seek additional instructions for exposed or potentially exposed persons.

If at work, notify a supervisor, a security officer, or a law enforcement official. If at home, contact the local law enforcement agency.

If possible, create a list of persons who were in the room or area when this suspicious letter or package was recognized and a list of persons who also may have handled this package or letter. Give this list to both the local public health authorities and law enforcement officials

These recommendations were published on October 26, 2001, in "Update: Investigation of bio-terrorism-related anthrax and interim guidelines for exposure management and antimicrobial therapy." MMWR 2001;50:909-919

CEM Training Schedule

- UEMA/CEM Capstone Conference - 11 Jan 02, WestCoast Hotel in Salt Lake City
- Nonviolent Crisis Intervention - 9-12 Apr. 02
- Hazmat Awareness, SE Utah - 25-27 Mar, 8-10 Apr, 22-27 Apr., 6-11 May
- Intermountain Hazmat Conference, Richfield, Utah - 21-23 May
- Domestic Preparedness Tech, UCDP - 1-2 July

For information on these classes or to register, please contact Patrice Thomas at (801) 538-3760 or register on-line at:

<http://cem.utah.gov/Training/trainingsched.htm>

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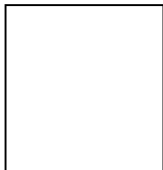
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Visit us at our web site at:

<Http://cem.utah.gov/UEMA/uema.htm>

Address:



It's not a matter of "If" but "When".....
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